

**Legislation of the 110th Congress Concerning
Foreign Languages and International Education
2007-2008**

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First Session:

H.CON.RES.11 English Plus Resolution <i>Introduced:</i> 1/4/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY) <i>Latest Action:</i> Referred to the House committee on Education and Labor. Cosponsor(s): 1	<i>Purpose (CRS Summary):</i> Declares that the U.S. Government should pursue English-plus policies that: (1) encourage all residents of this country to become fully proficient in English by expanding educational opportunities and access to information technologies; (2) conserve and develop the Nation's linguistic resources by encouraging all residents of this country to learn or maintain skills in languages other than English; (3) assist Native Americans, Native Alaskans, Native Hawaiians, and other peoples indigenous to the United States in their efforts to prevent the extinction of their languages and cultures; (4) continue to provide services in languages other than English as needed to facilitate access to essential functions of government, promote public health and safety, ensure due process, promote equal educational opportunity, and protect fundamental rights; and (5) recognize the importance of multilingualism to vital American interests and individual rights, and oppose English-only measures and other restrictionist language measures.
H.R.176 Shirley A. Chisholm United States Caribbean Educational Exchange Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 1/4/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA) <i>Latest Action:</i> 6/24/2008 Senate Committee/Subcommittee actions; Passed in the House (7/31/32007) Cosponsor(s): 58	<i>Purpose (CRS Summary):</i> To authorize assistance to the countries of the Caribbean to fund educational development and exchange programs. Authorizes the Secretary of State to establish the Shirley Chisholm United States-Caribbean Educational Exchange Program under which scholars and secondary, undergraduate, and graduate students from the Caribbean would attend U.S. schools, participate in activities designed to promote a greater understanding of U.S. values and culture, and have the option to live with a U.S. host family. Directs the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to develop a comprehensive program that extends and expands existing primary and secondary school initiatives in the Caribbean to provide: (1) teacher training methods; and (2) increased community involvement in school activities.
H.J.Res.17/H.J.Res19 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States establishing English as the official language of the United States <i>Introduced:</i> 1/17/2007, 1/18/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. John Doolittle (R-CA), Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-CO) <i>Latest Action:</i> 2/2/2007 Referred to the House	<i>Purpose:</i> These joint resolutions (which are identical) propose to amend the U.S. Constitution to establish English as the official language of this country. It states that "English shall be the official language of the United States and shall be used for all public acts, including every order, resolution, vote, or election, and for all records and judicial proceedings of the Government of the United States and the Governments of several States". It would give Congress the power to enforce this article by "appropriate legislation".

Subcommittee on the
Constitution, Civil Rights, and
Civil Liberties

Cosponsor(s): 0/5

H.R.648

**No Child Left Behind
Improvements Act of 2007**

Introduced: 1/23/2007

Sponsor: Rep. Don Young (R-AK)

Latest Action: Referred to
House Committee on
Education and Labor

Cosponsor(s): 4

Purpose:

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. This legislation proposes changes to the requirements for adequate yearly progress (AYP) assessments of student groups. Two changes of importance include the exemption of scores for AYP when students are in their first year of study in the U.S. and that children are to be assessed in the "language and form most likely to yield accurate data on what such students know and can do in academic content areas" (Section 106).

H.R.678

**National Security Language
Act**

Introduced: 1/24/2007

Sponsor: Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)

Latest Action: Referred to
the Committee on Education
and Labor and in addition to
the Committees on
Intelligence and Armed
Services

Cosponsor(s): 64

Purpose:

To strengthen national security through the expansion and improvement of foreign language study. This legislation contains provisions that address numerous aspects of language education in the U.S. Section 2 discusses early foreign language instruction through partnership programs between local educational agencies and institutions of higher education. The bill would appropriate \$48,000,000 for FY 2008 to fund grants for this program. The following section proposes to financially support programs in colleges and universities that emphasize pairing an understanding of science and technology with foreign language proficiency. It authorizes \$15,000,000 in funding for grants for FY 2008 for such programs.

Section 4 of the legislation calls for a marketing campaign to encourage high school and college students to study a foreign language, with emphasis on less-commonly taught languages.

Section 5 of this bill requires that a study be conducted to identify heritage communities of speakers of foreign languages that should be actively recruited for federal employment within one year of the enactment of the Act.

The next section requires the establishment of an international flagship language initiative within the National Security Education Program. It would expand grant program authority by awarding grants to colleges and universities to carry out activities of the International Flagship Language Initiative.

As stated in the legislation, all of these grant programs would give preference to programs that teach the less commonly taught languages or critical foreign languages (Arabic, Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Pashto, Persian-Farsi, Serbian-Croatian, Russian, Portuguese, and "any other language identified by the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Defense Language Institute, the Foreign Service Institute, and the National Security Education Program, as a critical foreign language need"). Also, the last section of the bill proposes to grant loan forgiveness to students who have obtained an undergraduate degree in a critical foreign language and who go on to teach a critical language in an elementary or secondary school.

S.372

**Intelligence Authorization
Act for Fiscal Year 2007**

Introduced: 1/24/2007

Sponsor: Sen. John
Rockefeller (D-WV)

Purpose:

To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United State Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes. Section 441 would authorize the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to pay a cash award to employees who use foreign language skills to protect against

<p>Latest Action: 4/18/2007 Senate floor actions: Returned to the calendar.</p>	<p>international terrorism or clandestine intelligence activities (or maintains foreign language skills for this purpose).</p>
<p>S.451 National Foreign Language Coordination Act of 2007 Introduced: 1/31/2007 Sponsor: Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-HI) Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Cosponsor(s): 4</p>	<p>Purpose: To establish a National Foreign Language Coordination Council that would consist of the National Language Director, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Labor, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank of the U.S., and heads of such other Federal agencies as the Council considers appropriate. The Council would be responsible for overseeing, coordinating, and implementing NSLI, developing a national foreign language strategy, conducting a survey of the status of the Federal agency foreign language and area expertise and needs for such expertise, and monitoring the implementation of this strategy. The legislation requires that the strategy be submitted to the President and Congress no later than 18 months from the date of enactment. The Council may hold meetings and shall formally meet at least twice per year. A public meeting shall be held at least once per year. The Council would be authorized to arrange conferences for the purpose of developing and coordinating effective programs that would promote foreign language education, may establish a newsletter, and shall create and maintain a website containing information relevant to language education. This bill would also create the position of National Language Director to be appointed by the President.</p>
<p>H.R.747 National Foreign Language Coordination Act of 2007 Introduced: 1/31/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA) Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor Cosponsor(s): 5</p>	<p>Purpose: This bill contains the same text at S.451 above.</p>
<p>H.R.769 National Language Act of 2007 Introduced: 1/31/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Peter King (R-NY) Latest Action: 5/18/2007 Referred to House subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Cosponsor(s): 66</p>	<p>Purpose: To amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the official language of the Government of the United States and for other purposes. This legislation would require the government to (1) conduct official business in English; (2) preserve and enhance the role of English as the official language in the U.S. (CRS Summary). The bill also states that no person "has a right, entitlement, or claim to have the government act, communicate, perform, or provide services or materials in any other language, unless specifically stated in applicable law". English may be used for religious purposes and education and training for international communication. The legislation shall not prevent the U.S. government from providing interpreters for individuals over 62 years of age.</p> <p>The bill would also repeal provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 in regards to bilingual election requirements and amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require that all public ceremonies where the oath of allegiance is administered be conducted solely in English.</p>

<p>H.R.997 English Language Unity Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 2/12/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Steve King (R-IA) <i>Latest Action:</i> 6/5/2007 Referred to House subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 152</p>	<p>Purpose: To declare English as the official language of the United States, to establish a uniform English language rule for naturalization, and to avoid misconstructions of the English language texts of the laws of the United States, pursuant to Congress' powers to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization. This bill states that the Federal Government has an obligation to "preserve and enhance" the role of English in the U.S. and shall encourage opportunities for individuals to learn the English language. It would require the official functions of government to be conducted in English. This does not apply to the teaching of foreign languages; requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; actions, documents, or policies necessary for international relations, trade, tourism, or commerce, or that protect public health, safety, victims of crime, criminal defendants, facilitate activities of the Census Bureau, or use of terms of art. For naturalization, the legislative language would require English to be used to test understanding of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and laws, and that all naturalization ceremonies are conducted in English. The bill does state, however, that nothing in the legislation shall be construed to prohibit the use of or discourage the learning of other languages for unofficial use.</p>
<p>H.R.1084 Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 2/15/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA) <i>Latest Action:</i> Referred to House Committee on Foreign Affairs <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 1</p>	<p>Purpose: To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, and the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to build operational readiness in civilian agencies, and for other purposes. This bill includes provisions to include foreign language training and cultural awareness curriculum content for use in programs of the Foreign Service Institute, the Center for Stabilization and Reconstruction Studies at the Naval Postgraduate School, the National Defense University, and the United States Army War College.</p>
<p>S.732 Peace Corp Empowerment Act <i>Introduced:</i> 3/1/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT) <i>Latest Action:</i> Referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 1</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary): Authorizes appropriations for seed funding for Peace Corps volunteers to carry out approved demonstration projects. Authorizes charitable fundraising by Peace Corps volunteers. Requires the Director of the Peace Corps to: (1) award grants to private nonprofit corporations and returned Peace Corps volunteers to enable such volunteers to develop programs and projects in the United States to promote Peace Corps goals; (2) increase the number of Peace Corps volunteers with at least five years of relevant work experience, and establish FY2008-FY2010 experienced volunteer demonstration programs in at least 20 countries; (3) establish an electronic system for promoting improved communication among Peace Corps volunteers and staff; (4) provide for volunteer input in senior staff and program reviews; (5) review the Peace Corps medical screening process; (6) seek to secure the right of volunteers to suspend enrollment in retiree health plans and to resume such enrollment upon service completion; and (7) provide whistleblower and administrative separation protection. Provides for a Volunteer Advisory Committee for each country in which volunteers serve. Requires the Secretary of the Treasury to provide tax deduction guidance for volunteers or volunteer leaders enrolled under the Peace Corps Act. Requires the Peace Corps to publish a financial guide for applicants and volunteers.</p>
<p>S.761 (H.R.2272)</p>	<p>Purpose: To invest in the innovation and education to improve the competitiveness of</p>

<p>America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act Introduced: 3/5/2007 Sponsor: Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) (Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN)) Latest Action: 8/9/2007 Became Public Law No: 110-69 Cosponsor(s): 69 (21)</p>	<p>the U.S. in the global economy. The America “COMPETES” Act is an updated version of the 2006 National Competitiveness Investment Act introduced by Senators Frist and Reid. This legislation is a bipartisan response to the National Academies’ “Rising Above the Gathering Storm” report and the Council on Competitiveness “Innovate America” report. It would increase research investment, strengthen educational opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics from elementary through graduate school, and develop an innovation infrastructure. In addition to expanding AP and IB programs and funding for math, science, engineering, and technology, the America COMPETES act would develop and implement programs for bachelor’s and master’s degrees in critical foreign languages with concurrent teaching credentials. It would also expand critical foreign language programs in elementary and secondary schools in order to increase the number of students studying and becoming proficient in these languages. The legislation also proposes programs to develop and educate more teachers in these subject areas. This law is fairly broad in scope and creates programs in a number of federal agencies. *The House version of this bill, H.R.2272, was passed on 5/21/2007 and does not include language regarding foreign languages. The House and Senate conferenced to resolve differences and passed the bill to become Public Law No. 110-69. The final version does include multiple provisions for critical foreign languages and a Foreign Language Partnership Program.</p>
<p>H.R.1377 Teachers of English Language Learners Act Introduced: 3/7/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX) Latest Action: 3/7/2007 Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means Cosponsor(s): 9</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary): Teachers of English Language Learners Act - Amends the Internal Revenue Code to: (1) allow a tax credit for full-time teachers in limited English proficient schools; and (2) a tax deduction for tuition and fees for courses required for certification to teach English to elementary or secondary school students who are limited English proficient, as defined by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.</p>
<p>H.R.1469 Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act of 2007 Introduced: 3/12/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) Latest Action: 3/4/2008 Placed on Senate legislative calendar under general orders Cosponsor(s): 45</p>	<p>Purpose: To establish the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961. This act would require the Foundation to award grants to U.S. students and nongovernmental institutions that provide and promote study abroad opportunities in consortium with institutions of higher education. These grants would be awarded increasingly to students studying in nontraditional locations. The legislation implements the recommendations from the Abraham Lincoln Commission’s report <i>Global Competence and National Needs: One Million Americans Studying Abroad</i>.</p>
<p>H.R.1585 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 Introduced: 3/20/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Ike Skelton (D-</p>	<p>Purpose: To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.</p>

MO) <i>Latest Action:</i> 12/28/2007 Vetoed by President <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 1	
S.991 Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 3/27/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) <i>Latest Action:</i> 3/27/2007 Referred to Senate Committee on Foreign Relations <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 49	<i>Purpose::</i> This bill contains the same text as H.R.1469 above.
H.R.1718 Foreign Language Education Expansion Act <i>Introduced:</i> 3/27/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Dennis Moore (D-KS) and Rep. Christopher Shays (R-CT) <i>Latest Action:</i> Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 14	<i>Purpose::</i> To provide teachers of foreign languages the same loan forgiveness opportunities as teachers of math and science. This would make teachers of foreign languages eligible for loan forgiveness up to \$17,500 if they teach in eligible Title I elementary and secondary schools for five years. This bill addresses the teacher shortages in foreign languages and is designed to expand the number of teachers entering the field.
H.R.1765 Access to Language Education Act <i>Introduced:</i> 3/29/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Brain Baird (D-WA) <i>Latest Action:</i> Referred to House committee on Energy and Commerce <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 3	<i>Purpose::</i> To establish two nationally distributed video programming channels providing language instruction. One such channel would provide English language instruction for speakers of other languages and the other would provide instruction in languages that are not widely taught in U.S. educational institutions and have significant value for U.S. global interactions. The programs shall be distributed nationally via internet delivery.
H.R.1794 Families Learning and Understanding English Together Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 3/29/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) <i>Latest Action:</i> 7/9/2007 Referred to House	<i>Purpose (CRS Summary):</i> Authorizes the Secretary of Education to make grants to providers of family literacy services to improve the literacy and English skills of limited English proficient individuals who are parents or children in families where each parent is at least 16 years old and where at least one child is under age eight. Directs the Secretary to reserve certain funds to: (1) provide technical assistance and training to such grantees; (2) make grants to, or enter contracts with, national organizations that have family literacy service expertise to provide grantees with technical assistance and training; and (3) evaluate and improve such grant program. Requires grantees to meet specified outcome measures.

subcommittee on Healthy
Families and Communities

Cosponsor(s): 6

S.1236

**School Accountability
Improvements Act**

Introduced: 4/26/2007

Sponsor: Sen. Lisa
Murkowski (R-AK)

Latest Action: Referred to
Senate Committee on Health,
Education, Labor, and
Pensions

Cosponsor(s): 1

Purpose (CRS Summary):

Amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to exempt teachers who teach multiple subjects in certain small middle or secondary schools from being required to be highly qualified in each of their subjects if they: (1) are highly qualified in at least one; and (2) demonstrate highly effective teaching skills on a state performance assessment.

Allows states to use a growth model in calculating whether students are making adequately yearly progress (AYP) toward state academic performance standards if the state plan ensures their attainment of proficiency within certain periods of time.

Gives schools which are identified as needing improvement an extra year to make AYP before being required to allow student transfers. Limits the transfer option to students who do not meet proficiency standards.

Permits local educational agencies (LEAs) identified as needing improvement to provide supplemental educational services themselves.

Allows schools identified as needing improvement due to an underperforming disabled or limited English proficient (LEP) student subgroup to limit their improvement plan to such failing subgroup. Eliminates the requirement that schools be restructured and LEAs face corrective action because of such a subgroup's underperformance, if AYP can be shown using a growth model that counts students who are on track to attain proficiency by their final year in secondary school.

Requires AYP measurements of certain schools providing Native language instruction to kindergarten through second grade children in states with no AYP assessment in such language to exclude grade three results and employ a growth model requiring progress toward proficiency by seventh grade.

Allows partnerships receiving subgrants for preparing, recruiting, and training teachers and principals to include parent teacher organizations and use funds for activities enhancing parental involvement.

H.R.2082

**Intelligence Authorization
Act for Fiscal Year 2008**

Introduced: 5/1/2007

Sponsor: Rep. Silvestre
Reyes (D-TX)

Latest Action: 12/13/2007
Conference report agreed to
in House by 222-199 vote

Purpose:

To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

Section 406 of the legislation states that the Director of National Intelligence shall establish a multi-level security clearance system that utilizes the skills of persons with foreign language, cultural, linguistic, or other subject matter expertise that is critical to national security.

The bill would amend Title V of the National Security Act of 1947 by requiring a "Report on Foreign Language Proficiency in the Intelligence Community" to be submitted each year to the Director of National Intelligence which would include: 1) the number of persons authorized for such element that require foreign language proficiency and the level required; 2) the number of persons authorized for such element that are filled by military personnel and civilians; 3) the number of applicants for such positions in the previous fiscal year; 4) the number of persons hired; 5) the number of such personnel currently attending foreign language training and the provider; 6) a description of efforts to recruit, hire, train, and retain personnel of such element that are proficient in a foreign language; 7) an assessment of methods and models for basic, advanced, and intensive foreign language training.

This legislation would also amend Title I of the National Security Act of 1947 to require a similar report as described above detailing the numbers of personnel

	<p>whose primary duty requires proficiency in a foreign language, and those that do not, and the number if personnel rated at each level of proficiency according to the Interagency Language Roundtable scale.</p> <p>DNI would report to Congress with an assessment of the foreign language capacity and capabilities of the intelligence community and make recommendations for eliminating foreign language related reports that are no longer relevant.</p>
<p>H.R.2111 Foreign Language Education Partnership Program <i>Introduced:</i> 5/2/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ) <i>Latest Action:</i> 7/17/2007 Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 32</p>	<p>Purpose:</p> <p>To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a partnership program in foreign languages. The Secretary of Education would be given the authority to make incentive payments to eligible partnerships to “develop and maintain model programs that support articulated language learning in kindergarten through grade 12”. The funds may be used for program design and teaching strategies according to best practices and available research, curriculum and materials development, national assessment development and enhancement, teacher in-service and pre-service program development, and recruitment incentives for new teachers and students. The funds can also be used to provide opportunities for maximum language exposure for students, dual-language immersion programs, scholarships for study abroad opportunities, activities that encourage whole-school and community involvement, effective and innovative use of technology, and certification and alternative certification programs.</p> <p>Further, a model program is exempt from receiving funding under this program unless it contains a research and evaluation component that would collect data regarding the effectiveness of each activity of the language program and the effect of each activity on the language proficiency of the students. This data would be analyzed and made public under standardization guidelines determined by the Secretary.</p> <p>A partnership that is awarded incentive funding under this program for one fiscal year would have the opportunity to continue funding for the three succeeding fiscal years if proven effective. This requirement may be waived by the Secretary if the program relates to critical languages or if the year is used primarily for planning rather than program implementation.</p> <p>Incentive payments for this bill would be appropriated in the amount of \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.</p>
<p>S.1294 Homeland Security Education Act <i>Introduced:</i> 5/3/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) <i>Latest Action:</i> 5/3/2007 Referred to Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 2</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary):</p> <p>A bill to strengthen national security by encouraging and assisting in the expansion and improvement of educational programs in order to meet critical needs at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels, and for other purposes. This legislation would amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to award scholarships for the pursuit of bachelor degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and critical foreign languages.</p> <p>Amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary to award grants to: (1) school districts which upgrade their mathematics and science programs and work with private or state or local government entities willing to donate equipment, mentoring personnel, and higher education scholarships for students participating in the programs; (2) scientists and engineers who return to school to become teachers in their fields in needy schools; (3) partnerships between school districts and institutions of higher education working to enhance the recruitment and professional development of foreign language teachers; and (4) institutions of higher education which develop programs to immerse students in a foreign language while they study science, technology, or engineering here or abroad.</p> <p>Amends the David L. Boren National Security Education Act of 1991 to alter the terms of the work agreements required of recipients of scholarships and</p>

	<p>graduate fellowships in studies or languages critical to national security. Includes the Department of Homeland Security and Department of State among the agencies where service may be rendered. Sets federal employment and teaching alternatives when priority positions are unavailable.</p> <p>Directs the Secretary to award grants enabling institutions of higher education, in collaboration with elementary and secondary schools, to establish language learning pathways training students from elementary through graduate education to be proficient in critical foreign languages.</p> <p>Requires the Secretary to award scholarships to individuals proficient in critical foreign languages who return to school to become foreign language teachers in needy elementary or secondary schools.</p> <p>Amends federal law to create a student loan repayment pilot program for federal employees with critical science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and foreign language skills.</p>
<p>S.1335 S.I. Hayakawa Official English Language Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 5/8/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK) <i>Latest Action:</i> 5/8/2007 Referred to Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 8</p>	<p>Purpose: A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the official language of the Government of the United States, and for other purposes. This legislation would declare English as the official language of government activities of the United States. It includes provisions for “preserving and enhancing the role of the official language” in which “no person has a right, entitlement, or claim” to government services or materials in any language other than English, and where the U.S. government does provide materials in another language, the English language version is the “sole authority for all legal purposes”. Exceptions include religious purposes, foreign language training for international communication, and school programs to encourage students to learn foreign languages. The legislation is not to be considered to prevent the Government from providing interpreters for persons over age 62. In addition, the bill would repeal bilingual voting requirements in the Voting Rights Act of 1965.</p>
<p>S.1339 Teacher Excellence for All Children Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 5/8/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) <i>Latest Action:</i> 5/8/2007 Referred to the Senate Committee <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 4</p>	<p>Purpose: See H.R.2204.</p>
<p>S.1348 Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 5/9/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) <i>Latest Action:</i> 6/7/2007 Senate floor actions; Motion by Senator Reid to reconsider the vote by which cloture on the bill was not</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary): Establishes a temporary guest worker program (H-2C visa). Provides: (1) that the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) shall determine H-2C eligibility; (2) for a three-year admission with one additional three-year extension; (3) issuance of H-4 nonimmigrant visas for accompanying or following spouse and children; (4) for U.S. worker protection; (5) for implementation of an alien employment management system; and (6) establishment of a Temporary Worker Task Force.</p> <p>Expands the S-visa (witness/informant) classification. Limits the L-visa (intracompany transfer) classification. Expands the visas waiver program to include on a probationary basis a European Union (EU) country that is assisting the United States in Afghanistan or Iraq and whose participation does not compromise U.S. law enforcement interests.</p>

invoked. Cosponsor(s): 4	<p>Securing Knowledge, Innovation, and Leadership Act of 2007 or the SKIL Act of 2007 - Exempts from the annual H-1B (specialty occupation) visa cap an alien who has: (1) earned a master's or higher degree from an accredited U.S. university; or (2) been awarded a medical specialty certification based on post-doctoral training and experience in the United States.</p> <p>Revises certain: (1) student visa provisions; and (2) labor certification provisions.</p> <p>Authorizes mandatory departure and immigrant or nonimmigrant reentry for a qualifying illegal alien who has been present and employed in the United States since January 7, 2004. Establishes a three-year mandatory departure status, and sets forth immigration prohibitions and penalties for failure to depart or delayed departure.</p> <p>Authorizes the Secretary to award initial entry, status adjustment, and citizenship assistance grants to qualifying community-based organizations.</p> <p>States that English is the national language of the United States. Requires the government to preserve and enhance the role of English as the national language of the United States.</p>
S.1393 Strengthening American Citizenship Act of 2007 Introduced: 5/15/2007 Sponsor: Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) Latest Action: 6/15/2007 Referred to Senate Committee on the Judiciary Cosponsor(s): 2	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary):</p> <p>Directs the Chief of the Office of Citizenship of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide grants (not to exceed \$500) to assist legal U.S. residents who declare an intent to apply for citizenship in the United States to meet naturalization requirements.</p> <p>Provides such grants to an accredited institution of higher education or other qualified educational institution for tuition, fees, books, and other educational resources required by the English language course in which the legal resident is enrolled.</p> <p>Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to provide that a legal U.S. resident who demonstrates English fluency will satisfy the residency requirement upon the completion of four (currently, five years) years of continuous U.S. legal residency.</p> <p>Directs the Secretary of DHS to: (1) establish an American citizenship grant program for qualified entities to provide civics, history, and English classes to promote the patriotic integration of prospective citizens; and (2) implement a strategy to enhance public awareness of naturalization ceremonies.</p>
S.1464 Global Service Fellowship Program Act of 2007 Introduced: 5/23/2007 Sponsor: Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI) Latest Action: 5/23/2007 Referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations Cosponsor(s): 8	<p>Purpose:</p> <p>To establish a Global Service Fellowship Program that would promote international volunteering opportunities as a means of building bridges across cultures, addressing critical human needs, and promoting mutual understanding. Fellowships funded under this program would be coordinated and supervised by participating volunteer organizations registered with the Secretary of State in collaboration with host country organizations in developing, building, and cross-cultural service organizations. Funds awarded under this program could be used for: 1) airfare, accommodations, and transportation within the host country; 2) fees assessed by sponsoring organizations to defray the international service program and administrative costs; 3) subsistence allowance in accordance with local market conditions; 4) program materials and tools used for service-related projects; 5) seed funding for local service projects; 6) language and cultural training and other costs associated with pre-service project orientation.</p>
S.1548 Department of Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 Introduced: 6/5/2007 Sponsor: Sen. Carl Levin (D-	<p>Purpose:</p> <p>An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.</p> <p>This bill appropriates funds in the amount of \$37 million across several government agencies for language and international education.</p>

MI)

Latest Action: 6/29/2007

Placed on Senate legislative calendar under general orders.

S.1642

Higher Education

Amendments of 2007

Introduced: 6/18/2007

Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)

Latest Action: 7/24/2007

Passed Senate with an amendment by Yea-Nay Vote 95-0

Cosponsor(s): 10

Purpose:

To renew the Higher Education Act. This includes provisions for institutional aid, student assistance, teacher training, and funding for Title VI programs such as the National Resource Centers and National Language Resource Centers and Fulbright-Hays programs. Suggested changes to Title VI include a requirement that the Secretary of Education consult with Federal agencies regarding their needs in foreign languages prior to requesting applications and that he or she will assist grantees in developing a survey to administer to students in programs as regards their postgraduate placement. The bill includes more support for instructors of critical languages and graduate students conducting research and dissertations abroad or about foreign languages and area studies subjects. Applications for funds must "include an explanation of how the activities funded by the grant will reflect diverse perspectives and a wide range of views and generate debate on world regions and international affairs." The applications must also include how the institution will encourage graduates to go into government service. This emphasis on diversity and encouraging graduates into government service applies to other sections of the bill as well, including Research Studies (Sec. 604), Centers for International Business Education (Sec. 609), and Education and Training programs (Sec. 610). Additionally, Title I, General Provisions, in Section 101 has a definition of Critical Foreign Languages that is very broad and flexible including a listing of over 150 languages and language groups. Title II, Teacher Quality Enhancement, Section 402 includes critical foreign languages in the Academic Competitiveness Grant Program. Title VII, Graduate and Postsecondary Improvement Grants, Section 711, Special Projects also includes Foreign Languages and International Cooperation and Student Exchanges as Areas of National Need.

Finally, in Title VI, International Education and Foreign Language Programs, outreach was heightened; undergraduates are again eligible for FLAS Fellowships and now have opportunities to study overseas; cooperation between minority institutions and other Title VI IHEs is encouraged; support for minority students is strengthened, and authorization levels are changed to "such sums as necessary."

S.1704 (H.R.2559)

First Higher Education Extension Act of 2007

Introduced: 6/27/2007

Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) (Rep. George Miller (D-CA))

Latest Action: 7/3/2007

Become Public Law: 110-44

Cosponsor(s): 1

Purpose:

To extend programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965 until July 31, 2007 (October 31, 2007 in the House version, but the Senate version was signed by the President).

S.1775

No Child Left Behind Act of 2007

Introduced: 7/12/2007

Purpose:

To reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to "ensure that no child is left behind". This bill would repeal, among other programs, the Foreign Language Assistance Program.

<p>Sponsor: Sen. Richard Burr (D-NC) Latest Action: 7/12/2007 Referred to Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Cosponsor(s): 3</p>	
<p>H.R.2166 Practicality in Education Act Introduced: 5/3/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Jerry Moran (R-KS) Latest Action: Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor Cosponsor(s): 2</p>	<p>Purpose: To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve the method of determining adequate yearly progress (AYP), and for other purposes. The main section of interest in the legislation proposes to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 so that when students with limited English proficiency are not tested in their native language, their scores are not used in measuring achievement or AYP. The bill also includes a section stating that a growth model could be implemented to measure achievement and determine AYP for these students.</p>
<p>H.R.2204 Teacher Excellence for All Children Act of 2007 Introduced: 5/8/2007 Sponsor: Rep. George Miller (D-CA) Latest Action: 7/17/2007 Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness Cosponsor(s): 60</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary): To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, the Higher Education Act of 1965, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve recruitment, preparation, distribution, and retention of public elementary and secondary school teachers and principals, and for other purposes. Amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) to establish: (1) teacher education assistance for college and higher education (TEACH) grants for undergraduate and graduate students who agree to serve as teachers in high-need schools and fields; and (2) grants to recruit teachers with mathematics, science, or language majors. Extends the authorization of appropriations for HEA teacher quality enhancement grants for states and partnerships. Revises HEA student loan forgiveness requirements to: (1) increase the amount of loan forgiveness available to mathematics, science, and special education teachers; (2) make reading specialists eligible for such forgiveness; and (3) apply such forgiveness in annual increments rather than in a lump sum at end of their service obligation. Amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to establish grant programs to improve teaching at high-need schools. All revisions, loan forgiveness, and recruitment efforts include language majors and teachers, also including teachers of English language learners.</p>
<p>H.R.2669 College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 Introduced: 6/12/2007 Sponsor: Rep. George Miller Latest Action: 9/27/2007 Became Public Law 110-84 Cosponsor(s): 31</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary): Amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) to alter the Pell Grant program by: (1) increasing the maximum Pell grant; (2) removing the tuition sensitivity provision reducing the Pell Grant available to students attending low cost schools; (3) allowing year-round Pell grants; (4) increasing students' Pell grant eligibility by increasing their income protection allowance; (5) altering the formula for determining whether a student qualifies for a simplified means test and zero-expected family contributions; and (6) excluding certain income and assets from student need determinations. Alters HEA student loan programs by: (1) cutting the interest rate charged undergraduate student borrowers under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) and Direct Loan (DL) programs; (2) increasing limits on federally-insured loans; (3) reducing special allowance payments to lenders; (4)</p>

	<p>eliminating exceptional performer status for lenders; (5) reducing the lender insurance percentage; (6) reducing the percentage of defaulted loan collections a guaranty agency may retain; (7) changing the formula for determining the account maintenance fees paid to guaranty agencies; (8) increasing the loan fee charged certain lenders; and (9) requiring lenders and guaranty agencies to provide institutions of higher education (IHEs) and third-party servicers with student loan information to prevent loan defaults.</p> <p>Of particular interest to language professionals, this bill would provide student loan forgiveness to borrowers who serve in areas of national need, such as early childhood educators, nurses, foreign language specialists, librarians, certain highly qualified teachers, child welfare workers, speech language pathologists, National Service participants, and public sector employees. It also would establish a TEACH Grant program providing tuition assistance to undergraduate and graduate students who commit to teaching a high-need subject in a high-need school for four years.</p>
<p>H.R.2861 Language Education for Success Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 6/26/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY) <i>Latest Action:</i> 6/26/2007 Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 3</p>	<p>Purpose: To forgive certain loan repayments of teachers of limited English proficiency students and to direct the Commissioner of the National Center for Educational Statistics to study educational achievement performance measures of limited English proficiency children. This bill would also require the Secretary of Education to create a list for each state describing programs that foster academic success for student with limited English proficiency. It authorizes the Secretary to provide grants to institutions of higher education for foreign languages and teacher preparation instruction for first-year undergraduate students.</p>
<p>H.R.2957 English Language Instruction Improvement Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 7/23/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Joe Baca (D-CA) <i>Latest Action:</i> 9/11/2007 Referred to the House subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary): English Language Instruction Improvement Act of 2007 - Amends title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to raise, from 6.5% to 9%, the amount of title III appropriations devoted to the National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition and Language Instruction Educational Programs and a program providing competitive grants to institutions of higher education (IHEs) for teacher training to improve classroom instruction for limited English proficient children.</p> <p>Alters such grant program by allowing the provision of grants directly to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) and eliminating the requirement that IHE grantees be in consortia with states or LEAs.</p> <p>Adds to allowable grant uses: (1) the development and dissemination of best practices in teaching individuals with limited English proficiency to high levels of achievement pursuant to challenging state academic performance standards or to high levels of multilingual proficiency; (2) research and evaluation of the education provided to such individuals; and (3) technical assistance to states and LEAs in meeting the requirements of title III.</p>
<p>H.R.3043 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 <i>Introduced:</i> 7/13/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. David Obey D-</p>	<p>Purpose: To make appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.</p>

<p>WI) <i>Latest Action:</i> 11/15/2007 Failed in passage of House over veto</p>	
<p>H.R.3122 Second Higher Education Extension Act of 2007 <i>Introduced:</i> 7/23/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. George Miller D-CA) <i>Latest Action:</i> 9/19/2007 Referred to the House subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 1</p>	<p><i>Purpose:</i> To temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965 until September 30, 2007.</p>
<p>S.2001 All Students Can Achieve Act <i>Introduced:</i> 8/3/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-CT)) <i>Latest Action:</i> Referred to Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 2</p>	<p><i>Purpose (http://lieberman.senate.gov/issues/nclb.cfm):</i> To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. The reauthorization proposal of No Child Left Behind “focuses on improving teacher effectiveness and raising education standards for American students”. This bill would focus on the achievement of all students, having high expectations for all students, and closing the achievement gap. In order to achieve these goals, the All Students can Achieve Act (ASCA) would ensure that comprehensive data systems are created in each state to track student achievement and trace student achievement to their teachers. Teacher quality would be determined by both teacher qualifications and their effect on student learning. States would be given flexibility in measuring student achievement and would be encouraged to implement merit pay systems. ASCA proposes to implement voluntary American standards and assessments in reading, math, and science and states would have the option to adopt these standards or keep their own. Also, to ensure that students are held to high expectations, states must establish P-16 Commissions to ensure alignment of state curriculum and success after graduation. ASCA would implement “comprehensive” and “focused” interventions for AYP to close achievement gaps and incentive grants would be awarded for innovative teacher and school programs. The legislation would ensure that loopholes in accountability are closed and that students would be tracked and reported for all groups of students.</p>
<p>H.R.3222 Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2008 <i>Introduced:</i> 7/30/2007 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. John P. Murtha (-PA) <i>Latest Action:</i> 11/13/2007 Became Public Law No: 110- 155</p>	<p><i>Purpose (CRS Summary):</i> To make appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.</p>
<p>H.R.3242 Strengthening America’s Innovation and</p>	<p><i>Purpose (CRS Summary):</i> Amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Education to award competitive grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) and public or private entities to recruit and train individuals</p>

<p>Competitiveness Act Introduced: 9/19/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) Latest Action: 9/19/2007 Referred to House subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness Cosponsor(s): 1</p>	<p>outside of the elementary and secondary education system who have expertise in core academic subjects, particularly mathematics, science, and critical foreign languages, to serve as adjunct secondary school teachers of such subjects.</p> <p>Revises the Advanced Placement Incentive grant program to: (1) require nonprofit grantees to partner with educational agencies; (2) give priority to applicants that increase mathematics, science, or critical foreign language programs or target rural schools; and (3) require grantees to cover two-thirds of program costs and provide salary incentives for AP mathematics, science, or critical foreign language teachers.</p> <p>Establishes Math Now programs awarding competitive grants to states, high-need LEAs, and rural educational service agencies to improve mathematics instruction for students in elementary and middle schools.</p> <p>Replaces the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship program with the Robert C. Byrd Mathematics and Science Honors Scholarship program awarding funds to a private nonprofit organization to administer, through a public-private partnership, such program for postsecondary and graduate students who commit to five consecutive years of service in a science, engineering, or mathematics field.</p> <p>Authorizes the Secretary to cover the student loan interest obligations of mathematics, science, or engineering professionals and elementary and secondary school teachers who make such an obligation.</p> <p>Amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary to award grants to institutions of higher education to establish, in partnership with LEAs, articulated programs of critical-need foreign language studies enabling successful students to advance from elementary school through college and achieve superior proficiency in such languages.</p> <p>Expresses the sense of the Congress that female students should be encouraged to participate in this Act's grant programs.</p>
<p>H.R.3272 United States-China Diplomatic Expansion Act of 2007 Introduced: 8/1/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Mark Steven Kirk (R-IL) Latest Action: Referred to House committee on Foreign Affairs Cosponsor(s): 4</p>	<p>Purpose (CRS Summary):</p> <p>Authorizes FY2008 appropriations for: (1) public diplomacy programming, hiring of additional local public diplomacy personnel, and public diplomacy information technology infrastructure in the People's Republic of China (PRC); (2) construction of one additional U.S. consulate in the PRC (in addition to the number in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act); (3) 10 additional U.S. diplomatic posts in the PRC (in addition to the number in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act); (4) a U.S. financial contribution to Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation; (5) rule of law initiatives in the PRC; and (6) specified Chinese language exchanges.</p> <p>Expresses the sense of Congress that the U.S. government should retain possession of the U.S. Embassy compound in Chaoyang District, Beijing, China, after the opening of the new U.S. Embassy compound in Liang Ma He, Beijing, China.</p> <p>The provision for Chinese language exchanges would authorize funding for various types of language programs including teacher exchanges, Fulbright scholarships, Gilman Critical Language Scholarships, and intensive language summer institutes.</p>
<p>H.R.3275 U.S.-China Language Engagement Act Introduced: 8/1/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA) Latest Action: 8/1/2007</p>	<p>Purpose:</p> <p>To support programs that offer Chinese language and culture instruction. This bill would direct the Secretary of Education to award competitive grants to local education agencies for innovative program models that would establish, improve, or expand Chinese language and culture studies in U.S. elementary and secondary schools. The grant period would be three years and may include a professional development component. For this grant, special consideration would be given to programs that include an intensive summer language program for professional development, with particular regard to programs that</p>

Referred to House Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Cosponsor(s): 6	include a travel component; link English/Chinese bilingual speakers in the community with elementary schools in order to promote two-way language learning; promote sequential study of Chinese, beginning in elementary school; make effective use of technology; promote innovative activities, such as language immersion; and promote a comprehensive approach to learning Chinese, including history and culture. The legislation would authorize funds in the amount of \$20,000,000 for FY 2008 and \$25,000,000 for each fiscal year through 2012 and the sum necessary thereafter.
H.R.3727 One America, Many Voices Act Introduced: 10/2/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA) Latest Action: Referred to House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Cosponsor(s): 3	Purpose: To provide that premium pay be paid to Federal Employees whose official duties require the use of one or more languages besides English.
H.R.3745 Mandarin Language Teaching Grant Act of 2007 Introduced: 10/4/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Joe Knollenberg (R-MI) Latest Action: Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor	Purpose: To improve Mandarin language education by authorizing grants that would support the creation of Mandarin language classes for elementary, secondary, and adult students. The program would authorize the Secretary to award 5 year grants to start Mandarin language classes across all age levels and fund instructors for the classes. The funding shall be used to supplement other Federal, State, or local funds already available. Applications will be considered according to the following criteria: 1) programs that include a ranges of class levels, beginner through advanced; 2) link bilingual English/Mandarin speakers in the community to promote two-way language learning; 3) promote sequential study of Mandarin, beginning in the elementary school; 4) make effective use of technology; 5) promote innovative activities; and 6) promote a comprehensive approach to learning Mandarin, including teaching the history and culture of China. This program requests \$50,000,000 in funding.
H.R.3746 College Access and Opportunity Act of 2007 Introduced: 10/4/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Howard P. Buck McKeon (R-CA) Latest Action: 10/4/2007 Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor Cosponsor(s): 8	Purpose: To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) and reauthorize appropriations for HEA programs.
H.R.3842 Providing Resources to Improve Dual Language Education Act of 2007 (PRIDE Act) Introduced: 10/16/2007	Purpose: To establish dual-language programs in low-income communities with high populations of English language learners. This legislation purposes to establish five dual language flagship grants which would be awarded by the Secretary to enhance biliteracy, bilingualism, and multicultural skills for children in low-income communities, including English language learners and minority children. The grant would fund partnerships of local education agencies, early

Sponsor: Rep. Hilda Solis (D-CA) Latest Action: 10/16/2007 Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor Cosponsor(s): 9	childhood education programs, and technical assistance providers to implement high-quality dual language programs that: 1) serve cohorts of economically disadvantaged minority and English language learners from preschool through fifth grade; 2) establish a rigorous assessment system; 3) implement and align a curriculum that promotes the development of biliteracy, bilingualism, and multicultural competencies for students through at least fifth grade; 4) utilize student-centered instruction; 5) align professional development and training for early childhood education instructors and elementary school teachers and staff; 6) recruit, train, and continuously develop staff in dual language program implementation; 7) establish a responsive infrastructure involving students' families and the community. Each grant would be awarded for up to five years and applications would be subjected to a peer review process. \$250,000 of the \$15,000,000 requested for this grant program would be reserved to contract with an entity that has a proven record for successful implementation and execution of such a dual language program in order to provide technical assistance and support to the local education agencies receiving grants. This bill would also require the Secretary to disseminate information on best practices and model programs.
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H.R.4137 College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007 Introduced: 11/9/2007 Sponsor: Rep. George Miller (D-CA) Latest Action: 8/14/2008 Signed into law as P.L. 110-315 Cosponsor(s): 29	<p>Purpose:</p> <p>To amend and reauthorize the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA). This is the final reauthorization of the HEA, which was supposed to be accomplished in 2005. On July 29th, a House/Senate Conference Committee reported the <i>Higher Education Opportunity Act: Expanding College Access, Strengthening Our Future</i>, a compromise on S.1642 and H.R.4137, to both congressional chambers. Two days later the Act was passed by both the House and the Senate and some highlights from the Committee's summary of the 1,158 page bill include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of general provisions deal with college costs, loan accountability, textbook costs, opportunities for minorities, veterans, and students with disabilities, campus safety, energy efficiency, and competitiveness; • A broad definition of "critical foreign language" in Title I, General Principles, as suggested by JNCL-NCLIS; • A new competitive grant program for math, science, technology, and critical foreign languages to serve as adjunct content specialists to support teachers in Title II, Teacher Quality Enhancement; • Provisions for loan forgiveness for teachers in high need areas, including foreign languages, in Title IV, Student Assistance; • Foreign languages as an "area of national need" in Title VII, Graduate and Post Secondary Improvement Programs; • Increased and improved linkages and outreach for foreign languages and international studies to public and private sectors, cooperation with math, sciences, and technology, increased study abroad, and reinstated FLAS fellowship eligibility in Title VI; • The creation of a new Deputy Assistant Secretary for International and Foreign Language Education in Title IX, the Department of Education Organization Act. <p>This new five year reauthorization was unceremoniously signed by President Bush on August 14, 2008 as Public Law 110-315.</p>
H.R.2764 Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 Introduced: 11/9/2007 Sponsor: Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY)	<p>Purpose:</p> <p>The original bill was introduced to make appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. After a presidential veto of the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill and failure to pass other appropriations legislation for FY2008, Congress passed and the president signed this omnibus spending bill that provides funding for several federal agencies. Most programs funded</p>

Latest Action: 12/26/2007
Became Public Law No: 110-
161

under this bill underwent a 1.747% across the board cut.
*There were numerous bills of a similar purpose that preceded this final appropriations bill.

Second Session:

H.R.4986 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 <i>Introduced:</i> 1/16/2008 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Ike Skelton (D-MO) <i>Latest Action:</i> 1/28/2008 Became Public Law No: 110-181 <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 1	<i>Purpose (CRS Summary):</i> Authorizes appropriations for the Department of Defense (DOD) for FY2008. Authorizes appropriations to DOD for: (1) procurement, including for aircraft, missiles, weapons and tracked combat vehicles, ammunition, and shipbuilding and conversion; (2) research, development, test, and evaluation, including ballistic missile defense; (3) operation and maintenance, including for defense working capital funds, the Defense Health Program, drug interdiction and counter-drug activities, and environmental restoration; (4) active and reserve military personnel, including end strengths and the Armed Forces Retirement Home; (5) increased costs for military activities and military construction due to the global war on terror (6) the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program; (7) chemical demilitarization construction; and (8) Guard and reserve forces facilities. Sets forth provisions or requirements concerning: (1) active and reserve military personnel policy; (2) military education and training; (3) military justice; (4) military pay and allowances; (5) retired pay and survivor benefits; (6) military health care; (7) acquisition policy and management; (8) DOD organization and management, including intelligence-related matters; (9) counter-drug activities and matters related to homeland security; (10) civilian personnel matters; (11) matters relating to other nations; and (12) cooperative threat reduction with states of the former Soviet Union. Authorizes appropriations for FY2008 for military construction for the Armed Forces and defense agencies. Allows a victim of terrorism (or his or her representative) to seek money damages for an injury or death in a private cause of action in U.S. courts against a foreign state designated as a state sponsor of terrorism at the time of the injury or death if such injury or death was caused by an official, employee, or agent of such foreign state while acting within the scope of his or her employment. Permits the President to except the government of Iraq if: (1) the exception is in the interest of U.S. national security; (2) the waiver will promote the reconstruction of, the consolidation of democracy in, and the relations of the United States with, Iraq; and (3) Iraq continues to be a reliable ally of the United States and partner in combating acts of international terrorism. *There were numerous bills of a similar purpose that preceded this final authorization bill, one of which passed both Houses of Congress but was vetoed by the President.
H.R.5179 International Education Leadership Act of 2008 <i>Introduced:</i> 1/29/2008 <i>Sponsor:</i> Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ) <i>Latest Action:</i> 1/29/2008 Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor <i>Cosponsor(s):</i> 12	<i>Purpose:</i> To establish an Assistant Secretary for International and Foreign Language Education and an Office of International and Foreign Language Education within the Department of Education. The responsibilities of this office and the Assistant Secretary would include 1) encouraging and promoting foreign language and culture study at the elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels in the U.S.; 2) administering all Department programs dealing with international and foreign language education and research; 3) coordinating with other international and foreign language programs in other Federal agencies, and; 4) administering and coordinating the Department of Education's activities in international affairs.
H.R.5715 To ensure continued availability of access to the Federal student loan program for students and	<i>Purpose:</i> Makes changes to requirements and regulations regarding federal student loan programs, especially between the federal government and lenders. Some federal loan programs are revised, the most notable here being the eligibility requirements for SMART grants (available to third and fourth year Pell grant-eligible students) pursuing science, math, technology, engineering, and critical foreign language majors. The grants would be available to students at institutions

<p>families Introduced: 4/8/2008 Sponsor: Rep. George Miller (D-CA) Latest Action: Became Public Law 110-227 Cosponsor(s): 32</p>	<p>of higher education that either do not allow students to declare a major if their studies are equivalent to majors in such subjects and students whose academic program requires a full five years of coursework for a baccalaureate degree.</p>
<p>H.R.6037 National Security Culture and Language Training Act Introduced: 5/13/2008 Sponsor: Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (-AZ) Latest Action: 5/23/2008 Referred to House Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities Cosponsor(s): 2</p>	<p>Purpose: This bill would authorize the Secretary of Defense to pay a bonus for acquiring foreign language proficiency or expertise in foreign cultural studies to regular or reserve members of the military. There would also be incentive pay to a person enrolled in an officer training program to acquire such proficiency. Furthermore, the legislation directs the Secretary of Defense to conduct a pilot program to provide a skill proficiency bonus for reserve members receiving inactive-duty training compensation for acquiring proficiency in a foreign language.</p>